

Consolidation and cross-ownership of media outlets is an extreme form of deregulation which will undoubtedly further stifle real democratic discourse. True freedom of expression, a key foundation to effective democratic government, relies on equal opportunity of opinions to be heard. Allowing big businesses to buy up media outlets and trumpet a monolithic, materialistic point of view would be the fulfillment of an Orwellian prophecy. The power and greatness of the United States is partly due to the respect and gratitude of all nations for its beneficent, well-intentioned use of its power in opposing totalitarianist societies. Those who request approval for consolidation and cross-ownership of media outlets to enrich themselves in both wealth and power do so at the expense of our society's best interests.